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NOTES ON NEW BOOKS.

MEMOIRS OF NAPOLEON, HIS COURT AND FAMILY; by the Duchess D'ABRANTES, (Madame Junot.) In two vols. With numerous portraits engraved on steel. New York. D. Appleton & Co. 1854.

Big books, says the Greek proverb, are big evils; city of Pericles and Aspasia. The "merry wives"

to his cost) only the width of his dinner table. But if there be any thing which the Parisian likes better than soupe maigre, claret, dancing, the theatres and revolutions, it is talking; indeed, the café-house is not so much made to cat and drink in as to chat in, and we incline to believe that the French keep up the theatre and overset their Governments every now and then not so much for the love of the thing as for the sake of talking about it and being themselves talked about; a supposition which such felonies) not so much from any love of filthy lucre a widow. M. Permon had died a few days after the 13th life if a short one, or, as some have "confessed," for the Junot, "was deep;" etiquette required absolute solidiers to do them the honor of attendance, and with a box at one of the theatres, and to go there in the most crowd to huzza around their gibbets. Of Eratostratus, profound incognito, in order at once to preserve decorum too, it is recorded by Plutarch that he burnt the great and assuage her poignant grief by a temporary diversion dern to get the insurance on it, but to eternize his name; and, sure enough, the scamp has exceeded in his aspiration, for every school-boy knows it by heart. The French, Napoleon never failed to meet her. The young and rising then, we are persuaded, keep their political institutions going like a whirligig, (though they seem to have a ratchet | we are to believe her daughter, and offered her his hand, in them now, I in order to keep themselves from fulling into the ennui of a people whose annals are tedious; for though such a people are pronounced happy by a familiar aphorism, it is not a kind of happiness to which a Frenchman would aspire; he would leave it to a Hollander.

Madame Junot, the agreeable writer of the "Memoirs which this new edition brings before us, is a genuine Prenchwaman, as she takes care to tell us again and again. though she need not have taken the trouble. Her books are voluminous, but they are never dull ; she tells a good many long stories and some very circumstantial ones, but she never wearies us by her garrulity. That she was a woman of good heart may be inferred from the fact that she waited until most of the actors in her "Memoirs" were dead before she exposed them ; and that her memory (we did not say her invention) was remarkable is evinced by the accuracy with which she reports a conversation a the revolution was overpast, but the murmuring and quarter of a century after it was held in her hearing. But bellowing of its thunder still resounded in the ears of the she took "notes," she tells us, at the time, and this perhaps solves the mystery. There is, we must admit, a transparent naivete about Madame Junot's narratives which patriots still held civic feasts, and dined either in the at once propitiates the incredulous reader, and if she does open air, which was rather annoying when the wind was not always tell the truth, according to Las Casas and high, or in the street, which was always fil thy; but Marshal Soult, we at least have no disposition to ques- people dined in common at Sparta, and there fore, says tion her veracity: for we believe those who ventured to Madame J., it was right that they should dine in common impugn the faithfulness of her recollections never under at Paris. At that period, too, young men still ran about took the task of confuting and disproving her statements. These "Memoirs" we doubt not are as reliable as Ronrienne's, and even more interesting to the general reader, because she tells us so many things which only a woman would observe, and which only a woman would think worth telling.

Madame Junot is the most agreeable of gossips, and "Memoirs" to make a confidant of the public, and there not laugh, but held their chins with one hand, salu is a minuteness and speciality about her revelations and is a minuteness and speciality about her revelations and each other by wagging the head, and strove, in short, disclosures which enhance their value and piquancy. She keeps nothing back from the reader, but admits him at as they could." once to her confidence, takes him into her boudoir, and holds her morning audience with him in her bed-chamber. cratic instincts;" she does not believe in equality. It She tells us all about her family; her mother, proud of the has been alleged, she says, that the revolutionary and Grecian blood in her veins; her father, bold, chivalric, levelling spirit of modern times has simplified matters by and haughty, though a commoner. She describes to us her birth at Montpelier, which took place in the year persons. That is true, she adds, in one sense. "Our 1784; she narrates the story of her early life, with its grocer shall have muslin curtains and gilt rods to his passenes of horror and its daily surprises during the "Reign windows, and his wife shall have a silk clock like ours, not of Terror;" she dwells with long and lingering discourse on her courtship by the impetuous Junot, he the bosom friend of the young Napoleon and she as yet a giddy girl of sixteen ; she informs us of their quarrels, which ended only in a renewal of love; describes to us with the great est particularity her trousseau and corbeille, her weddingdress, and her marriage by the mayor; she entertains up with an account of the earliest intimations which gave her the promise of maternity, and describes to us the consternation which befel her household and her adoring usband when those intimations were first crowned by the

and turn to "commence at the commencement."

Madame Junot enjoyed great advantages for the preparation of a work like that she has bequeathed us. Between her mother and the Bonaparte family the closest friendship subsisted. "He who afterwards became the master of the world, lived long," she remarks, "on a footing of intimacy with us. He used to frequent my father's house when I was yet a child and he scarcely a young the Emperor. When Napoleon was pinched by penury ing repairs, will pre man. I may almost say that I have witnessed every scene and want, Junot had shared with him his paternal remitday, preparatory te-

THE WEEKLY NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER. Tof his life; for being married to one of those men who tances and his earnings at the card-table, for he was an [this period he was very morose and censorious. He was suspicions and precipitance, but soon became her friend

his spirit at the thought of being a beneficiary student of the State, and quarrelled with the fortune which poured riches into the lap of some among his comrades but left him to shift for the first a raise a few sous to buy his disner. He did not like 4.5 military school at Paris, and afterwards, under the Empire, but the bulky volumes before us, comprising more than a thousand pages, would have been vastly popular, we are sure, with people with the ancient Athenicus, who, it is said and the said with the fortune which poured riches into the lap of some among his comrades but left him to shift for the laft of the law some among his comrades but left him to shift for the laft of the law some among his comrades but left him to shift for the laft of the law some among his comrades but left him to shift for the law of some among his comrades but left him to shift in the law of some among his dinner. He did not like the for the law of some among his

of the "Ecclesiazusæ" (those "Bloomers" of an pair of boots, which were a world too wide for the "literage) must at least have been very chatty if the thin legs which seemed buried in their amplitude." not very modest ladies; the loungers around the agora by day and the theatre-goers by night must in boots," a jocular designation which threw the young have been a gay and convivial if not a very "cormilitaire into a rage, and for which he never forgave its Leipsic and of Waterloo. We append a few passages, rect" kind of people.

author. It was a sister of Madame Junot's who first gave culled almost at him this nickname. In a few years afterwards his per- esting volumes. author. It was a sister of Madame Junot's who first gave culled almost at random, from these amusing and inter Parisians only, of course) have been often likened to sonal appearance underwent a change. His emaciated the sprightly and mercurial Athenians, and that the thinness was converted into a fulness of face, and his comcomparison is just will be admitted by all, as well plexion, which had been yellow and apparently unhealthy, by those who laud as by those who dispurage the traits common to both. The Frenchman, says a celebrated feuilletonist of Paris, is excessive in all celebrated feuilletonist of Paris, is excessive in all carly as 1793 he began to wear the gray great-coat which is features, which the Portuguese Minister was invited. This carly as 1793 he began to wear the gray great-coat which is described. On the occasion in question things. When a thing pleases him he is ready to adore afterwards became so celebrated; gloves at one time he but absolutely shrivelled." On the occasion in question tt, except it be a government over a year old; he passes never wore, and his boots were ill-made and ill-blackened he wore very conspicuously a peruke à la Pitt to indicate from a state of ennui to one of rebellion in less time than He had a great contempt for the "royalist coxcombs," It takes him to eat his breakfast of omelette and frog's who wore their hair, not d la Titus, that is, close shaven leg; from the roystering chorus of a patrictic song to an admitted and the barricades there is (as Louis Philippe found to his cost) only the width of his dinner table. But if called dog's ears, (oreilles de chien.)

The affair of the 13th Vendémiaire, (4th October, 1795,) in which Napoleon so greatly distinguished himself by routing and dispersing in the streets of Paris the insurgent mob who had risen to put down the Convention, opened the way to his subsequent promotion. After that day soiled boots, says Madame Junot, were out of the question. Bonaparte never went out now but in a handsome carriage, and he lived in a very respectable house, or horse fiesh as from a noble ambition to live a merry Vendémiaire. "My mother's mourning," says Madame nosegay to their hands, and with a company of halber- to take some amusement, and recommended her to hire a pretty widow Permon took a box at the Feydeau, "where she passed an hour or two every evening," and where officer soon became enamored of the widow Permon, if suing for their marriage "as soon as a regard to decency would permit." Madame Permon, it would seem, was taken by surprise, for she was old enough to be the mother of all the Bonspartes. She accordingly dismissed very blandly the youthful suitor, with the kindly assurance that, "though she had some pretensions, she did not aspire so high as to conquer the heart of a man of twenty-six." But Bonaparte would not take this denial. He begged the fair widow to think further of the propo-

> Madame Junot discourses much on the state of society during this transition period of France. The storm of people. Republicanism still had its enthusiasts and partisans, and, as Madame Junot thinks, its maniacs. Good the streets as real sans-culottes, with only a short tunio and a mantle, or rather an ample toga, for they b prowed

sal. "Well, well, I will think of it," replied Madame

Permon, "laughing heartily" at the idea, as her daughter

assures us. In a few days after this scene Napoleon and

Madame Permon quarrelled, and were never fully recon-

a bit from all the republics. "The company kept by my mother was compose d of a great number of persons of diametrically opposit e opinions. The artists and literary men talked and d ream of nothing but a republic. Young men, dressed com-Madame Junot is the most agreeable of gossips, and pletely in the Greeian styles, were seen gravely was king must have been, we should think, a very poor hand at in their white togas with red borders, stopping under one keeping a secret. At any rate she has determined in her of the entrances of the Louvre, and discussing bent at

> Madame Junot did not possess, it would seem, "demoplacing all articles more within the reach of all classes of because that silk has become so light and cheap that every body can afford it; but it does not keep any body warm. All other kinds of stuff are in the same predicativibut ment. Do not tell me 'so much the better, a proof of women equality.' By no means. Equality is no more here than lar preequality.' By no means. Equality is no more nere than in England, than in America, than it is any where, for it liver ver

bad satin, bad velvet, and that is all." We cannot dwell upon the chapters in which Madame Junot records how her virtuous brother ran off with an Italian favern-keeper's wife, and how the outraged husbirth of a daughter. But we anticipate the march of events band, "impelled by some demon or other, preferred a and then fail criminal complaint against poor Albert," (her brother's name,) instead of feeling complimented by the occurrence, or how Junot wooed, won, and wedded Mademoiselle Permon, though this is not the least interesting part of Madame Junot's book. Junot was one of Napoleon's oldest and truest friends, as was proved by the fiduciary trusts committed to his charge by the First Consul and

were devotedly attached to him, and constantly with him, adept in gambling. Junot's match did not exactly please what I did not myself see I was accurately informed of. Napoleon, for he disliked Madame Permon; but he was I may, therefore, fearlessly affirm that, of all the indi- easily reconciled by the ardent wishes of his old friend viduals who have written about Napoleon, few are so competent as myself to give a detailed account of him." of mingled raillery and badinage. Indeed, Madame Junot Madame Junot narrates many incidents of Napoleon's gives us to understand that Napoleon soon became s early youth and his school-boy life. She assures us that much reconciled to the alliance of Junot that he almost he was very much like all other boys, only perhaps a lit- fell in love himself with the wife of his old friend. It is the more determined and self-willed. When reprimanded for Madame Junot who tells the story so flattering to herself. a fault he seldom cried; when whipped, he would some. She dilates at length on the matutinal visits which the times let drop a few tears, but would never utter a word in the way of begging pardon. His nurse Saveria told while she was residing under his roof at Malmaison. She Madame Junot that Napoleon " was never a pretty boy," tells us how Napoleon read his private letters to her; like his brother Joseph, and of all his mother's sons was how he chatted and prattled about the "old times" they the one from whom future greatness was the least to be had spent together; how he pinched her toes through the prognosticated. When he first came to Paris he had all bed-clothes, and went off humming a merry air, &c. Mathe appearance of a "fresh importation," and went around dame Junot deemed it prudent to send to Paris for her the streets gaping and staring at every thing he saw. At husband. The First Consul quarrelled with her for her in fact quite a republican cynic and a snarler at every again. It is quite evident, however, that Madame Junot thing luxurious and extravagant. He fretted and chafed reverts to the scene with an ill-disguised complacency,

held a command in Egypt, he was commandant Paris, and afterwards, under the Empire, was Governor of Paris: he was chief of division at Arras, Ambassador to the Court of Portugal, and afterwards commander of the French forces detailed for the conquest of that coun try, and here it was he earned his title of Duke d'Abrantes; and here too he signed the famous convention of Cintra, now admitted to have been a good and politic manners. He was spare in size and wore an enormous arrangement, but which provoked the Emperor at the time. Junot was a brave soldier, but he was not a great general. He died of a brain fever at Montbard, in France. on the 29th July, 1818. He did not live to see the star of

The following is a warning to all short gentlemen who wear wigs and eat diplomatic dinners. Don Alexander de Souza was the Portuguese Envoy to Rome. While his sympathy with England.

livery of the Consuls. There were always two courses quently between each of the guests; but poor little Souza's stature presented no obstacle; the dishes passed over his head; and on one of these occasions one of the purveyor's buttons, being loosed, hitched in the little gentleman's wig and carried it off.

"The bewildered eyes of M. de Souza sought the wig in and being themselves talked about; a supposition which becomes the more probable when we remember that sundry dull and phlegmatic Englishmen are said to have taken to highway robbery and horse-stealing (in the good noise, as if by magic. He still came every day to see dignified under his misfortune, he thought perhaps to imold times when they used to hang, draw, and quarter for Madame Permon, the mother of Madame Junot, and now pose vastly by saying, with the utmost seriousness, to such folonies) not so much from any love of fifthy lucre a wider. M. Permon had died a few days after the lith the mattred hotel, who came in all haste to apologize, 'Sir, will you restore me my wig?' and he set to work to replace it, sake of not dying in their beds like lubbardly ploughmen, but of being escorted to Tyburn or the Old Bailey with a commanded her beds like lubbardly ploughmen, but of being escorted to Tyburn or the Old Bailey with a rely delicate health that the physician commanded her pressed laughter must have burst forth; it became, however, at length uncontrollable and appeared equally to master the whole company; for no sconer had mine ex-ploded than a mad and inextinguishable peal resounded from every part of the table.'

> Here we have a specimen of Madame Junot's portrait as seen at the Court of Lisbon :

> "Picture to yourgelf, reader, a woman four feet ten inches high at the very most, and crooked, or at least both her sides were not alike; her bust, arm, and lege all this might have passed off in a royal personage had her face been even endurable. But, good heavens, what a face itwas! * * She had two bloodshot eyes, which never looked one way, though they could not ab be accused of squinting—every body knows what kind of eyes I mean. Then her skin! there was nothing human in it; it might be called a vegetable skin. Her nose de-scended upon her blue livid lips, which when opened dis-played the most extraordinary set of teeth God ever ereated. Teeth I suppose they must be called, though they were in reality nothing but huge pieces of bone stuck in her large mouth, and rising and falling like the reeds of a reed-pipe. This face was surmounted by a cranium covered with coarse, dry, frizzy hair, which at first sight appeared to be of no color. I suppose it was black; for, looking at me, the Princess exclaimed, 'She is like us; she is dark complexioned; she has hair and eyes like Pepita.' Heaven preserve me, I inwardly exclaimed, while I involuntarily turned my eyes to a mirror, as if to assure myself that what she said was not true. Pepita was the Queen of Etruria.
> "Madame de Brissac was the very particular friend of

> 'Madame Mêre,' the mother of the Emperor. She was extremely deaf; and on the occasion of her presentation to the Emperor was most anxious to be informed what questions he would ask her and what she ought to answer. She was told that the Emperor almost always asked what department a person came from, how old they were, and how many children they might have. When the day of presentation came Madame de Brissac made her three courtesies to the Emperor, who, having and down no law to nimself to ask precisely the same questions of all the extraordinary faces before him, said rapidly to her, 'Is your husband brother to the Duke of Brissac who was killed on the 2d of September, and did he not inherit his estates?' 'Seine and Ouse, sire,'
> was the answer; and, though an odd one, not very wide
> of the mark, for M. de Brissac really inherited property
> in that department. The Emperor, however, struck by
> its incoherence, looked at her with some surprise as he continued, 'I believe you have no children?' 'Fifty-two, sire,' said she with the same amiable and benevolent smile as before, never deubting but the Emperor had inquired her age. Napoleon by this time was satisfied that Madame de Brissac was hard of hearing, and without further observation continued his tour of the circle."

Inappropriate as was Madame de Brissac's response on this occasion, it was not quite so much out of place as that made to him by Madame Fabre de l'Aude, which our readers may remember, and which, if they have forgotten it, they will find in one of Madame Junot's amus-

Mrs. Swishelm says: "If any woman has the gift of blic speaking, she has a right to speak; but we have er yet heard one who displayed any more than ordinaer a speech that would have been more than tolerate a man, and it does appear to us that, in a proper dis-ion of the world's work, there would be very few on of the world's work, there would be very leave to spare for public speaking. There is a particu-priety in women lecturing to persons of their own ubjects of health; but quite a number of men de-y good lectures on general subjects, and are good bittle else. We would be in favor of leaving the cannot exist. In consequence you will have bad taffeta, for very to them until some woman appears who is so
take a high position. We should like to see
pensation of woman's right to the forum esa female John the Baptist. It is painfully
o see a woman place herself in this position
to sustain herself triumphantly. We thought
and less of our sex, and less hopefully of
in listening to Miss Stone, and were comwho whedge that if a man had said the same
when we way, and in the same place, he would the future, who pelled to ackno ne way, and in the same place, he would

> NAVAL. - We le TOWALL commanding, which has been the Washington Navy Yard undergo-ceed to Norfolk, on Friday or Satur-her departure on a distant cruise.

TROUBLES OF THE VIRGINIA DEMOCRACY.

The discussion of 2d instant in the Virginia De-mocratic State Convention, as published in the Richmond papers, does not give indications of a very harmonious spirit amongst the Democracy of the "Old Dominion." The scenes of Friday are said to have been still more exciting, and instead of making a PARIS, NOVEMBER, 1854.

It is understood that the Whigs will probably not make a nomination before February. Quite time enough for

The Richmond Enquirer of Monday, in noticing the result of the late Convention of Democrats at Staunton,

"The Convention adjourned at midnight on Saturday night, under harmonious and bright auspices of a full and complete victory in May next. There were some scenes of deep interest and excitement, but, greatly to the surprise and mortification of our political opponents, there was but one spontaneous voice from the Democracy

stormy scenes which lasted throughout the whole three days. One of the dissatisfied speakers declared the Democratic party never stood so much in need of its entire strength as at present. The Richmond Dispatch says:

"The debate on the second day was one of a very ex-There was a great deal of feeling and occasionally passion, with occasional outbreaks of a character disorderly beyond any thing of the kind we ever witnessed. The

On the third day the strife was renewed, but had temporary pause by an alarm that the floor of the church in which the Convention was sitting was giving away. A stampede ensued, and members "jumped out of the windows and others tumbled out of doors in the most rapid and inconsiderate manner." For once the Democracy were "terrified."

the gallery had also been greatly frightened. The nominations were then made, as already announced, and peace the harbor, and when the besiegers shall have driven the was proclaimed amongst the members. The Convention unanimously adopted the following resolution :

" Resolved, That the official career of FRANKLIN PIRRO has been marked by a perfect observance of the limita-tions of the Constitution and an entire fidelity to the prin-ciples upon which he care into power, and therefore en-titles him to the configence of the friends of constitutional liberty in every section of the Confederacy.

Mr. Souls .- It is now stated (says the Baltimore Sun Minister of the most sarcastic character, which he will ing his head with a smile, he turned to his officers and publish the moment he arrives in Madrid.

Coalesce, for by the rules, I cannot say principles of the publish the moment he arrives in Madrid. publish the moment he arrives in Madrid.

"In this letter he proves that from the conduct of the official at Calais he must have had positive orders to reject him; and that therefore the Minister had such or ders. He wants to know why it was that he was permit weeks subsequently in Paris, and why he was invited so cordially to visit the Court while in Paris, if he was so personally obnotious to the French Government. He chanan and Mison at the Congress of Ostend that converted him so saddenly into an obnoxious and dangerous individual. He wants to know why it is that a great naion like France, which has three armies in foreign ands—one at Rome, another at Athens, a third in the Crimea—and 21 immense standing army at home, is less afraid to provoke a war with a powerful Government like that of the United States than to allow an humble individual like himself to enter its territory and come in contact with its people. He adds that he knows he is obnoxious to the French Government, and repeats that he has no favors to demand and none to expect, and cautions it not o provoke too seriously the people of the United States."

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN'S REMAINS .- We copied from the Lake Superior News a few days ago a statement to the effect that Dr. KANE had succeeded in finding the remains of Sir John Franklin and his men, completely frozen and in a perfect state of preservation. The Journal of Commerce savs:

"Dr. Kane was when last heard from at Smith's Sound and it is improbable that any of his party should have since then found their way down to the Back river, where Sir John Franklin is supposed to have perished. We fear that the story will prove to be a distorted version of the secount of Dr. Rae, originating in the substitution for his ame of that of Dr. Kane."

BANK FAILURE AT DALTON, (GA.)-We understand (says the Atlanta Intelligencer) that Mr. John Glenn, agent of the Georgia Railroad Company, on Friday last presented hundred dollars of the bills of the Cherokee In surance Bank, at Dalton, at the counter of the Bank for redemption, but was met with the information that there were no funds on hand to redeem the notes. The Bank had but very recently commenced operations.

have been recently written by new eaints and published in the Chicago papers. One lately acquired brother is in raptures with the institution of polygamy. He has three wives; the latest, he says, which he "took three months ago, is from near Hamburg, Germany. She is larger than either Sarah Ann or Elizabeth, (the name of my econd wife,) and, I say it without invidiousness or impropriety, is decidedly handsome. Her person is of good size, very round, full chest, bright flaxen hair, and a soft blue eye. She enters into the duties of her new situation with wonderful alacrity, and is very happy, as are also Sarah Ann and Elizabeth. You may be surprised at this, but you will be still more so when I assure you that all of my present wives are anxious that I should get another—one who is fitted by education and physically adapted to take charge of the business of the dairy With such an arrangement of my household every depart-ment of a well-organized establishment, on a patriarchascale, would have a head to it and be governed in order I have no inclination to comply on my own account, as I am well satisfied with those I now have; but if I should do so it will be entirely out of regard for them. My daughter Louisa is engaged to be married to a man from Pennsyl vania who has already a wife and three children.

FIRE AT BLACK ROCK, (NEW YORK)-At about one o'clock on Sucday afternoon a fire broke out in the Fron-tier Flour Mill, which, with its contents, was consumed. About fifteen thousand bushels of grain and three thou-sand barrels of flour were in the mill at the time. The propeller International, lying at her dock, took fire and burned to the water's edge, and then sank. She was owned by the Buffale and Brantford Railroad Company. and was worth about \$15,000. The mill was proper dispute between the estate of Ferdinand Suydam the Seneca County Bank. It was fully insured.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

We find the annexed letter from Paris in the New York Times. It wears an air of probability, and, if the alleged facts respecting the condition of

"Old Dominion." The scenes of Friday are said to have been still more exciting, and instead of making a nomination on that day, under the majority rule, as had been smicipated, the Convention only took one vote for a candidate for Governor. The contest continued till late at right. It was principally between the friends of Mr. Missand Mr. Leake, yet Mr. Seddon, Mr. Faulkner, and others got enough votes to prevent the choice of a candidate.

So bitter, we understand, was a portion of the debate that some members left and went home. A restoration of good feeling, however, is expected before meeting at the polla though some of the leaders talked "daggers" at each other. The reason for making a nomination six months hore the election is alleged to be to give time to cool off. The Richmond Examiner, however, does not at each other. The reason for making a nomination six months before the election is alleged to be to give time to cool off. The Richmond Examiner, however, does not give much lope of a speedy restoration of good feeling. It says property that "the nomination of Mr. Wise will exonerate every Democrat from supporting him on party grounds;" and adds that, in full view of his party record, his nomination "will be a total obliteration of the old party lines, and a final kicking to the dogs as worn-out trumpery of the old party organization."

It will be seen, by reference to the Telegraphic head, that Mr. Wise was nominated on Saturday.

Sometimes proceed as the base of action for the retreated sationed as the base of action for the retreated sationed as the base of action for the retreated in ground accompany the ingering that the fleet which should accompany the income is concerned; but you must recollect that real estate here will not, as in the Atlantic cities, sell for afterior reinforcements previously to an advance upon Perckop. This isthmus was considered the key to all future action. Here the Russians would have made a determined stand. It was proposed to land a portion of thousand dollars per annum would therefore not sell at thousand dollars per annum would therefore not sell at thousand dollars per annum would therefore not sell at thousand dollars per annum would therefore with the whole of troops and gans in the Crimea, together with the whole of thousand dollars per annum would therefore not sell at the hore will not, as in the Atlantic cities, sell for afterior recovery percent. A house or stere which may rent for ten five for the retreated the key to all future action. Here the Russians would have made a determined stand. It was proposed to land a portion of the utmost for more than \$40,000, probably only \$30,000, or even less, for money can be otherwise employed so as the base of action for the retreated with it in the treated to the proposed to the retreated to a second recovery percent in the pro the Russians, of whatever nature they might be, being attacked in front and rear, must have yielded. In possession of this isthmus, all reinforcement was cut off from Sebastopol, and its reduction might be undertaken in considered expedient.

Such was the matured advice proposed by the corps of French engineers, to whose opinion Lord Ragian leaned. The Marshal St. Arnaud, whose temper had been in-flamed by the attacks of the English and French journals upon the inaction of the armies, was determined upon a coup de main. Odessa was but a mercantile city, and its capture was no feat of arms; a blow must be struck at the power of military Russia, and the public voice de-manded the attack of Sebastopol.

The English corps of engineers pronounced in favor of

our glorious cause."

This flows very smoothly on Democrate paper, but other accounts, from neutral sources, give in insight into the Allied troops between the Austrian and Russian

The Emperor Nicholas, whose object was to induc the Allied army to embark at once for Sebastopol, had privately assented that Austria should occupy the Principalities, and withdrew his troops hastily, so that the Austro-Turkish forces should seem to keep him in check. The French and English camps were filled with Russian deserters and spies, whose real mission was to spread the report of the case with which Sebastopol might be atacked from the land side.

We know the result of this fatal step. The armie embarked and have been caught in a trap. It was found impossible to invest Sebastopol and its defences on the land side; that of detached forts, the least formidable in appearance are known to be the most difficult of attack. The English engineers made their first report that the

Resorting to the Town Hall, the Convention settled have fallen among the Allied troops since they landed in down under the comforting assurance that the Whigs in the Crimea. The town is reported ready for assault, but it also known that every fort and every street is undermined.
All the stores have been transferred to the north side of they will plunge into the harbor, and at the same moment the great mine under the whole city and its forts will be

expressed by a French Colonel of Engineers who had just probably follow suite. But what will be the grand re-Mr. Souls.—It is now stated (says the Baltimore Sun) completed a reconnaissance. Standing up in his stirrups, hat Mr. Souls has written a letter to the French Foreign he threw a look over the city and bay beneath, then, shak-

HANDSOME GOVERNMENT PRESENT.

There was received this week at the Library of ted to live one month in the south of France, three | Congress a valuable present in Books from the Gov- and virtue of the Government, its power has virtually rament Council of the Swiss Confederation. This handsome and very complimentary donation comants to know it it was his association with Messrs. Bu. prises thirty-six volumes, all elegantly bound, and possessing historic, statistic, or governmental interest. The following is a list of the works:

1. Decrees of the Helvetic Confederacy of the year

1847: 5 vols. folio.
2. Official Collection of Public Acts and Laws of Switz-3. Requeil Officiell Despièces concernant le droit public

de la Suisse: 3 vols. Svo. 4. Franscini's Statistics of Switzerland: 3 vols. Svo. Bluntschli's Federal Laws of Switzerland: 2 vols. 8vo. Müller's Histoire de la Suisse: 18 vols. 8vo. 7. Studer's Geology of the Alps: 2 vols. Svo. (new

LAWS AND FORMS, A VALUABLE BOOK .- Mr. C. W. BEN wrr, formerly an efficient and intelligent clerk in the Third Auditor's office, has made a Digest of the Laws and Resolutions of Congress, which is calculated to render intercourse with the several Departments very easy and simple. It embraces every thing in relation to pensions, bounty land claims, pay of the army, mileage, horses and other property lost or destroyed in the military service, patents, &c. It also embraces Opinions of the Attorneys General, Decisions of the Secretaries and Ac-

We have rarely seen a more complete arrangement of he subjects referred to than this book affords. It is divided into five parts, and thus each subject is clearly presented without confusion of irrelevant matter.

WHAT BECOMES OF THE SPECIE?-This is a question asked by almost everybody, and has become a newspaper theme. The answer is, that it has gone to the " seat of war," where the belligerents are killing each other by the thousand to "spread christianity" among the nighted! This state of things is likely to continue for some time to come, the pride of kings and emperors beng involved in the controversy .- Nat. Intellige

The above touches the secret of the "hard times" about which everybody is groaning. Our financial phisophers who asserted the fallacy that a state of war in Surope would be a commercial benefit to this country begin to find out that a state of peace is far more conducive to all sorts of prosperity the world over. England She enters into the duties of her new situation | and France are not only drenching the plains of the East with blood, but they are sowing them with gold. The scene of battle is always the scene of extortion, and every cerf who has a bullock or a loaf of bread to sell in the Crimea is bagging the mint drops drawn from West ern Europe and the United States. In the mean time. both England and France are producing less and consumng more than in a state of peace, and, instead of selling goods abroad, are selling largely to their own Govern monts: in other words, are selling to themselves - a rather profitless operation .- New York Mirror.

> LOVE AND SUICIDE .- Mr. Aaron Dunbar, a respectable citizen of Marlborough, Stark county, (Ohio,) aged about forty-five years, committed suicide at the Blind Asylum forty-five years, committed suicide at the Blind Asyl in Columbus on Tuesday night. He was engaged to narried, and visited Columbus with the view of consum mating the engagement. The ceremony was to have taken place at the Asylum; but about 12 o'clock on Tuesday night it was found that he had killed himself by poison. The supposed cause for the act was that his children would not favor the new marriage.

The annexation party in the Sandwich Islands, in the political vocabulary of the day, are called "Young Polynesia." It will be Young Feejee next.—Express.

FROM CALIFORNIA

Extracts of Letters from an infelligent resident at San Froncisco to his friend in Washington.

SAN FRANCISCO, OCTOBER 31, 1854. This place continues to grow, and one must see to be lieve in the grandeur of a city where stood in 1845 some twenty-five houses, with three hundred inhabitants; the own was then called Yerba Buena, the bay San Francisco. Now a single house, (Montgomery block,) one hundred and thirty-seven feet square, four stories high, built by four lawyers, rents for \$13,500 per month. They still owe on it \$100,000, for which they are paying the moderate interest (really moderate for this place) of two and a half per cent. per month. One year's rent more will pay off this mortgage, principal and interest. Rente generally are lower; but in some particular locations they still hold their own. In that very block, for a drinking saloon, the cellar under it, and a billiard-room, the man pays \$2,750 per month.

per month. But the time for making rapid fortunes in this city has passed; things are fast settling down to that regularity which belongs to the principles that govern trade and commerce. Still the wonderful fertility of the soil and the mildness of the climate, backed by the apparently inexhaustible fields of gold, must render this one of the greatest countries in the world. The goldfield, however, must for a long period be our principal resource, and why? Because we have no market for our surplus agricultural products. India, China, and Japan do not want them; Chili produces enough for herself and adjacent States. Many of the California farmers who in April looked forward to brilliant results are forced to sell their crops at ruinous prices to stop the more ruinous drain for interest on money to pay their hired laborers their back wages, to many of which they have had to pay forty, fifty, and even as high as seventy dollars per month, and find them. Let me add that I have seen today in market water and other melons, apples, pears, grapes, (and such grapes!) peaches, and strawberries The fertility of the soil is incredible, and then to have four or five months of entire dry weather for harvesting

Nothing new as regards the Senatorial election. It is said that Dr. Gwin has pelled the Legislature, and has a decided majority in his favor. He and his friends are very sanguine, and probably with cause. It was understood here that he intended to remain until the Legislature met in January; but, if he had any such intention, town could not hold out a week. The French corps de genie having reviewed it, declared it to be impregnable, or if carried by assault it would cost 30,000 men. is a wise determination; for, had he remained, it would have been made a great handle against him that he neglected his public duties to promote his continuance in place. The question with his opponents is not whether interests of the State; but their talk is the great Demecratic principle of rotation in office. This is one of the Democratic humbugs; when the fact is, if a man is capea mass ble and honest, the longer he remains in office the mere

Year elections and we look with great impa-The resume of this complicated attitude was admirably tience for those in New York and other States; they will

It is refreshing to see that in this city, where the Democracy has arrogated to itself hitherto all the merit disappeared; whether temporarily or not remains to be seen, and whether the same influence which has crushed its power in the city will hereafter extend through the State is also one of the things of futurity. But yesterday, to fill a vacancy, there was an election for City Comptroller. There was a regular Democratic candidate, a Broderick candidate, and an independent candidate; both, however, of the last named withdrew, leaving the regular Democratic candidate to contend only with the Know-Nothing candidate; and yet the latter succeeded, in a large vote, by nearly two to one. The city is now in the hands of the Know-Nothings; one year will enable us to judge of the results. The State is still Democratic, and until the meeting of the Legislature we cannot say how far their differences may be healed. The Senatorial election, it is now said, will be brought on so soon as the Legislature meets in January; and the Times and Transcript, supposed to speak understandingly, say the matter lies between Gwin and BRODERICK. There is no chance that either of the Democratic factions will join the Whigs : hence the Whigs must go over to one of those factions, and though it is a wise man who can now predict the result, I do not see how the Whigs can possibly join the Broderick section. Nous verrons. Dr. Gwin, I learn, will positively embark by the Nicaragua steamer of the

TO THE EDITORS.

24th instant, en route for Washington. He and his sup-

porters are still sanguine as to the result, and his leaving

California without waiting for the meeting of the Legis-

lature shows confidence in his position.

GENTLEMEN: I have observed with much pleasure that your paper frequently presents its numerous readers reliques of former days, and that its columns are beautified by extracts from the poets of olden time. Will you permit me to offer for introduction into your columns an extract from an old and favorite author, some lines which I would earnestly recommend to the members of Congress. and ask them, while sympathizing in the sentiments expressed, to act those sympathies out to the full extent of doing justice to all, especially to the widow and the orphan, to whom in so many instances the demands of justice have descended?

" How little knowest thou that hast not tride. What hell it is in suing long to bide;
To lose good days that might be better spent,
To wear long lives in pensive discontent;

To speed to-day, to be put back to-morrow;
To feed on hope, to pine with fear and sorrow;
To have thy prince's grace, yet want her peeres;

To have thy asking, yet waite manie yeares; To fret thy soul with crosses and with cares;

To eate thy heart through comfortless despairs; To fawne, to crouche, ts waite, to ride, to ronne To spend, to give, to want, to be undone.

Unhappy wight, borne to disastrous end,
That doth his life in so long tendance spend."

[Spencer's Mother Hubbard's Tale. An old story, not the less true. The quotation might have been extended. But will the

mbers read this and "lay it to heart;" and especially will the members of the various committees before whom SMUGGLED GOODS .- The New York Mirror contradicts

the report of a seizure of smuggled goods on board the steamship Africa, and says it is not true that any sign of smuggling was detected, although some of the passen were detained all night on board the vessel and gro outraged by the officers of the customs.